

# DIRECTIONS

OF THE

## Lords and Commons

Assembled in Parliament, 9

After advice had with the Assembly

of Divines, for the electing and choosng of

**RULING-ELDERS** in all the

Congregations, and in the Classicall

Assemblies for the Cities of *London*

and *Westminster*, and the severall

Counties of the Kingdom :

For the speedy setting of the

**Presbyteriall-Government.**

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Die Martis, 19 Aug. 1645.

**O** Rdered by the Lords Assembled in Parliament, That these  
Directions for electing of Elders in particular Congre-  
gations, and Classicall Assemblies, be forthwith printed and  
published.

J. Brown, Cler. Parliamentorum.

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LONDON,

Printed for *John Wright*, at the Kings head in the  
Oid-baily. August 20. 1645.

# DIRECTIO NS

OF THE

## Lords and Commons

Assembled in Parliament

After advice had with the Assembly

of Divines for the electing and choosing of

TRUSTWORTHY ELDERS in all the

Congregations, and in the Church

Assemblies for the Cities of London

and Westminster, and the several

Counties of the Kingdom

For the speedy recovery of the

Presbyterian Government

The Manuscript of Aug. 1645.

The Manuscript of Aug. 1645.

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*Die Martis, 19 Augusti. 1645.*

# DIRECTIONS

## FOR THE

### Election of Elders.

I.



That the Ruling Elders of a Parochiall and congregationall Eldership shall be chosen by the severall Ministers, and members of their Congregation respectively, being such as have taken the Nationall Covenant, and are not persons under age, nor servants that have no families.

2. That notice of such election, and of the day when it shall be given by the Minister in the publique Assembly the next Lords day but one before, and on that said Lords day a Sermon be preached preparatory to that weighty businesse.

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3. That

3. That no man be chosen for a Ruling-Elder but onely for one Congregation, and that in the place where his most settled dwelling and imployment doth lie.

4. That it shall be lawfull for the Congregation respectively, or any other persons to exhibite exceptions against any person elected as aforesaid, touching the right of his election, or touching matter of ignorance, or scandall, hereafter mentioned, within fourteene daies next after the said election to such persons, Ministers, and others, as shall be appointed by Authority of Parliament, to receive the said exceptions, which said persons shall have power to receive, heare, and determine all complaints against any Elder, of ignorance and scandall, within the description of ignorance and scandall hereafter mentioned.

And shall have power to approve the person so elected, in case no just exception, as aforesaid, shall be proved against him. But if he shall upon just prooffe be found ignorant or scandalous, as aforesaid, then to remove him. And if any of the said Elders shall be adjudged to be removed, as aforesaid, then another shall be chosen in his place, as aforesaid.

5. That



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5. That such shal be chosen for Ruling-Elders as are men of good understanding in matters of Religion, sound in the faith, prudent, discreet, grave, and of unblameable conversation. And willing to undergoe the said Office.

6. That all Parishes and places whatsoever, (as well priviledged places, and exempt jurisdictions, as others) be brought under the government of Congregationall, Classicall, Provinciall, and Nationall Assemblies. Provided, that the Chappels or places in the houses of the Peeres of this Realme shall continue free for the exercise of Divine duties, to be performed according to the Directory.

7. That the Chappell of the Rolles, the two Serjeants Innes, and the foure Innes of Court, shall be each of them a Congregationall Presbytery within themselves, and make a Classicall Presbytery in the whole.

8 That the Province of London shall be divided into twelve Classicall Eldershyps according to the distributions hereafter following :

The first Classis to containe :

**A** *l*hallowes Breadstreet, | *A*nne Black Friers,  
*A*ndrews Wardrope, | *A*ustins parish,

*Bennet*

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Bennet Pauls wharfe,  
Faiths,  
Gregories,  
John Evangelist,  
Margaret Moses,  
Martin Ludgate,

Mary Aldermiary,  
Mary le Bow,  
Matthew Fridaystreet,  
Mildreds Breadstreet,  
Pauls,  
Peters Pauls wharfe.

The second Classis to containe :

Anthomes vulgo An-  
thelms

Bennet Sherehogge,  
James Garlickhithe,  
John Baptists,  
Martin in the Vintry,  
Mary Magdalen old Fish-  
street,  
Mary Somerset,

Mary Mounthaunt vulgo  
Mounthaw.

Michael Queene Hithe,  
Michael Royall,  
Nicholas old Abby,  
Nicholas Olaves,  
Pancret Soperlane,  
Thomas Apostle,  
Trinity Parish.

The third Classis to containe :

Alhallowes the greater,  
Alhallowes the lesse,  
Alhallowes Lumberstreet,  
Edmunds Lumberstreet,  
Lawrence Pountney,  
Mary Abchurch,

Mary Bothaw,  
Mary Woolchurch,  
Mary Woolnoth,  
Nicholas Aron,  
Stephens in Walbrook,  
Swithins,

The

(5)

The fourth Classis to containe :

<i>Andrew Hubbert,</i>	<i>Magnus,</i>
<i>Bennet Grace-church,</i>	<i>Margaret New-fishstreet,</i>
<i>Buttolph Billingsgate,</i>	<i>Martin Orgars,</i>
<i>Clements in Eastcheape.</i>	<i>Marybill,</i>
<i>Dionis Backchurch,</i>	<i>Michael Crookedlane,</i>
<i>George Buttolph-lane,</i>	<i>Michael Cornhill,</i>
<i>Leonard in Eastcheape,</i>	<i>Peters Cornhill.</i>

The fifth Classis to containe :

<i>Anne Aldersgate,</i>	<i>Mary Staynings,</i>
<i>Buttolph Aldersgate,</i>	<i>Michael in the Corne,</i>
<i>Brides,</i>	<i>vulgo Querne,</i>
<i>Bridewell,</i>	<i>Olaves Silverstreet,</i>
<i>Christchurch,</i>	<i>Peters Cheape,</i>
<i>John Zachary,</i>	<i>Pedast alias Fosters.</i>
<i>Leonard Fosterlane,</i>	

The sixth Classis to containe :

<i>Albanes Woodstreet,</i>	<i>Mary Aldermanbury,</i>
<i>Alballowes Honi-lane,</i>	<i>Marymandlins Milkstreet</i>
<i>Alphage,</i>	<i>Mary Colechurch,</i>
<i>Giles Creeplegate,</i>	<i>Michael in Woodstreet,</i>
<i>James Chappell</i>	<i>Mildred in the Poultry,</i>
<i>Laurence in the Jury,</i>	<i>Olives in the Jewry,</i>
<i>Martin in Iremongerlane</i>	

The

## The seventh Classis to containe :

*Alhallowes by the Wall,  
Bartholmew Exchange,  
Bennet Fynck,  
Buttolph Bishopsgate,  
Christophers,*

*Margaret Lothbury,  
Michael Basshinslaw,  
Peter poore,  
Stevens Colemanstreet.*

## The Eight Classis to containe :

*Andrew Undershaft,  
Buttolph Algate,  
Ethelburge,  
Hackney,  
Hellens,  
James Dukes-place,*

*Katherine Cree-church,  
Leonard Shoreditch.  
Martins Oteswich, vulgo  
Outwich.  
Mary Newington, alias  
Soke Newington.*

## The ninth Classis to containe :

*Alhallowes Barkin,  
Alhallowes Stanings,  
Dunstans in the East,  
Gabriel Fenchurch,  
Katherine Coleman,  
Katherine Tower,  
Margaret Pattons,*

*Olaves Hartstreet,  
Peters in the Tower,  
Stepney,  
Trinity Minories,  
Wapping,  
White chappell.*



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The tenth Classis to containe :

George Southwarke,  
Lambeth,  
Mary Magdalen  
Bermondsey,  
Mary Overs,

Newington Butts,  
Olives Southwarke,  
Rotherhithe vulgo Redriff  
Thomas Hospitall,  
Thomas Southwarke,

The cleventh Classis to containe :

Clements Danes,  
Giles in the Fields,  
Knightsbridge,  
Margarets Westminster,  
Martins in the Fields.

Newchurch,  
Peters Westminster,  
Pauls chappell in covent  
Garden.

The twelfth Classis to containe :

Andrew Holburne,  
Bartholmew the greater,  
Bartholmew the lesse,  
Chaterhouse,

Dunstones in the West,  
James Carkenwell,  
Mary Islington,  
Sepulchers.

9. That all the Severall Parishes and Places within the Cities of London and Westminster, and the parts adjacent, according as they are distinguished into twelve severall Classis, shall

be the extent and bounds of the Province of London.

*Concerning the members of the Classicall and Congregationall Assemblies in the severall counties.*

**T**Hat in the severall Counties certaine persons, Ministers, and others, shall be appointed by authority of Parliament, who shall consider how their severall Counties respectively may be most conveniently divided into distinct classicall Presbyteries, and what Ministers and others are fit to be of each Classis. And they shall accordingly make such division, and nomination of persons for each classicall Presbytery, which Divisions, and persons so named for every Division shall be certified up to the Parliament. That the Chancellors, Vice-chancellors, and heads of the Universities shall consider how the Colledges may be most conveniently put into classicall Presbyteries, and doe certifie the same up unto the Parliament.

And the said severall Classes respectively being approued by Parliament within their severall Precincts shall have power to constitute Congregationall Elderships where a competent number of persons so qualified for Elders, as a-fore-

foresaid, shall be found. And where no persons shall be found fit to be Elders, as aforesaid, then that Congregation shall be immediately under the Classicall Presbytery, untill that congregation shall be enabled with members fit to be Elders, as aforesaid.

The congregational Assembly shall meet once every weeke, and oftner if occasion shall serve.

The classicall Assembly shall meet once every moneth.

*Concerning members of the Provinciaall Assembly.*

**T**HE Provinciaall Assembly shall be constituted of members sent from every Classis within the Province.

The number of the members sent from each Classes shall be so proportioned, as that the Provinciaall Assembly may be more in number then any Classicall Presbytery within that Province. And to that end there shall be at least two Ministers, and foure Ruling-Elders out of every Classis. And that where there shall be need, the number may be increased, as to the persons appointed for the bounding of the Provinciaall Assembly shall seem meet. Provided, that the  
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number doe not exceed nine of each, Ministers and Ruling-Elders, from any one Classis. And that there be alwaies two Ruling-Elders to one Minister. That the Provinciaall Assembly being constituted, shall meet twice every yeere, the first meeting shall be determined by the persons appointed for the bounding of the Provinciaall and Classicall Assemblies.

*Concerning the Nationall Assembly.*

**T**Hat the Nationall Assembly shall be constituted of members sent from the severall Provinces aforesaid, the number of the members from each Province to the Nationall Assembly shall be two Ministers, and foure Ruling-Elders. The Nationall Assembly is to meet when they shall be summoned by Parliament, and to sit and continue as the Parliament shall order, and not otherwise.

**FINIS.**



